



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Group Art Unit N/A

In re Patent Application of  
Masood Akhtar, et al.  
Application No. 10/652,587  
Confirmation No.: N/A  
Filed: August 29, 2003  
Examiner: N/A

I, Sally J. Sorensen, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date of my signature.

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PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.97(b)

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Sir:

The Examiner's attention is directed to the references which are listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, copies of which are not being provided herewith because, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies were previously submitted to, or cited by, the office in U.S. Serial No. 09/646/256, filed November 28, 2000, which is being relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Citation of these references is respectfully requested.

No concession is made that these documents are prior art, and Applicant expressly reserves the right to antedate the documents as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey D. Peterson  
Jeffrey D. Peterson  
Reg. No. 49,038

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Substitute of form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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of

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**Complete if Known**

<b>Application Number</b>	10/652,587
<b>Filing Date</b>	August 29, 2003
<b>First Name Inventor</b>	Masood Akhtar
<b>Group Art Unit</b>	Not available
<b>Examiner Name</b>	Not available
<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	016260-9005-02

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials		U.S. Patent Document Number	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document
	AA	5,460,697	Akhtar et al.	October 24, 1995
	AB	5,750,005	Akhtar, M.	May 12, 1998
	AC	5,055,159	Blanchette et al.	October 8, 1991
	AD	3,962,033	Eriksson et al.	June 8, 1976

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials		Country Code	Foreign Patent Document Number	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Translation	English Abstract
	AE	PCT	WO 96/05362 A1	Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation	February 22, 1996		

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>			Application Number	10/652,587
			Filing Date	August 29, 2003
			First Named Inventor	Masood Akhtar
			Group Art Unit	Not available
			Examiner Name	Not available
			Attorney Docket Number	016260-9005-02
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Sheet		of	3	

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### OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc. ), date, pages(s), volume-issue numbers(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	
	AF	Akhtar, <i>et al.</i> , "Biomechanical Pulping of Loblolly Pine With Different Strains of the White-Rot Fungus <i>Ceriporiopsis Subvermispora</i> ", <i>Tappi J.</i> , Feb. 1992, pp. 105-109.
	AG	Bar-Lev, <i>et al.</i> , "Fungal Treatment Can Reduce Energy Requirements for Secondary Refining of TMP", <i>Tappi J.</i> , Oct. 1982, pp. 111-113.
	AH	Blanchette, R., "Screening Wood Decayed by White Rot Fungi for Preferential Lignin Degradation", <i>Applied and Environmental Microbiology</i> , Sep. 1984, pp. 647-653.
	AI	Lawson, L. and Still, C., "The Biological Decomposition of Lignin - Literature Survey", <i>Tappi J.</i> , Vol. 40 No. 9, Sep. 1957, pp. 56A-80A.
	AJ	Myers, <i>et al.</i> , "Fungal Pretreatment of Aspen Chips Improves Strength of Refiner Mechanical Pulp", <i>Tappi J.</i> , May 1988, pp. 105-108.
	AK	Leatham, <i>et al.</i> , "Energy Savings in Biomechanical Pulping", <i>4<sup>th</sup> International Conference</i> , Raleigh, NC, May 16-19, 1989.
	AL	Leatham, <i>et al.</i> , "Biomechanical Pulping of Aspen Chips: Paper Strength and Optical Properties Resulting from Different Fungal Treatments", <i>Tappi J.</i> , Mar. 1990, pp. 249-255.
	AM	Leatham, <i>et al.</i> , "Biomechanical Pulping of Aspen Chips: Energy Savings Resulting from Different Fungal Treatments", <i>Tappi J.</i> , May 1990, pp. 197-200.
	AN	Oriaran, <i>et al.</i> , "Kraft Pulp and Papermaking Properties of <i>Phanerochaete Chrysosporium</i> -degraded Aspen", <i>Tappi J.</i> , Jul. 1990, pp. 147-152.

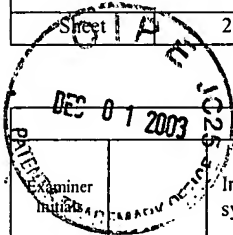
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/652,587
		Filing Date	August 29, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Masood Akhtar
		Group Art Unit	Not available
		Examiner Name	Not available
		Attorney Docket Number	016260-9005-02

**OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc. ), date, pages(s), volume-issue numbers(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

AO	Yang, <i>et al.</i> , "Bleaching of Softwood Kraft Pulps with the EnZone Process", <i>Tappi J.</i> , Vol. 77 No. 3, See Abstract, Mar. 1994, pp. 243-250.
AP	Akhtar, M., Attridge, M.C., Myers, G.C. and Blanchette, R.A. "Biomechanical Pulping of Loblolly Pine Chips with Selected White-Rot Fungi", <i>Holzforschung</i> , 1993, 47(1), 36-40.
AQ	Ander, P. and Eriksson, K.E. "Mekanisk massa från förrötad flis – en inledande undersökning", <i>Svensk Papperstidning</i> , 1975, 18, 641.
AR	Blanchette, R.A. and Burnes, T.A., "Selection of White-Rot Fungi for Biopulping", <i>Biomass</i> , 1988, 15, 93-101.
AS	Eriksson, K.E. and Vallander, L., "Properties of Pulps from Thermomechanical Pulping of Chips Pretreated with Fungi", <i>Svensk Papperstidning</i> , 1982, 85(6), R33-R38.
AT	Labosky Jr., P., Zhang, J. and Royse, D.J., "Lignin Biodegradation of Nitrogen Supplemented Red Oak ( <i>Quercus Rubra</i> ) Wood Chips with Two Strains of <i>Phanerochaete Chrysosporium</i> ", <i>Wood and Fiber Sci.</i> , 1991, 23, 533-542.
AU	Messner, K., Masek, S., Srebotnik, E. and Techt, G., "Fungal Pretreatment of Wood Chips for Chemical Pulping", <i>Biotechnology in the Pulp and Paper Industry, Proceedings of the 5th International Conference on Biotechnology in the Pulp and Paper Industry</i> (Kuwahara, M. and Shimada, M., eds.) 1992, pp. 9-13.
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AW	Scott, G.M., Akhtar, M., Lentz, M., Sykes, M. and Abubakr, S., "Biosulfite Pulping Using <i>Ceriporiopsis Subvermispora</i> ", (Srebotnik, E., Messner, K. eds.), Facultas-Universitats Verlag, Bergasse 5, A-1090 Wien, Austria, 1996, p. 217-219.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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AX	Wolfaardt, J.F., Boshoff, I.E., Bosman, J.L., Rabie, C.J. and van der Westhuizen, G.C.A., "Lignin Degrading Potential of South African Wood-Decay Fungi", <i>FEMS Symposium, Lignin Biodegradation and Transformation, Book of Proceedings</i> (Duarte, J.C., Ferreira, M.C. and Ander, P., Eds.), Forbitech Editions, Lisboa. 1993, pp. 67-69.
AY	Wolfaardt, J.F., Bosman, J.L., Jacobs, A., Male, J.R. and Rabie, C.J., "Bio-Kraft Pulping of Softwood", <i>Proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Biotechnology in the Pulp and Paper Industry: Advances in Applied and Fundamental Research</i> (Srebotnik, E., Messner, K. eds.), Facultas-Universitats Verlag, Bergasse 5, A-1090 Wien, Austria, 1996, p. 211-216.
AZ	Akhtar, M., <i>et al.</i> , "The White-Rot Fungus <i>Ceriporiopsis Subvermisporea</i> Saves Electrical Energy and Improves Strength Properties During Biomechanical Pulping of Wood", <i>Proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Biotechnology in the Pulp and Paper Industry</i> , Kyoto Japan, May 27-30, 1992, p. 3-8.
BA	Akhtar, M., <i>et al.</i> , "Toward Commercialization of Biopulping", <i>PaperAge</i> , Feb. 1999, p. 1-4.
BB	Scott, G.M., Akhtar, M., Lentz, M., Sykes, M., and Abukar, S. 1995. In <i>Proceedings of the 1995 Environmental Conference</i> , pages 1155-1161, Atlanta: Tappi Press"

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